



When this panorama was shot in 1886 looking south from Buena Vista Park, Eureka Valley (near left) and Noe Valley (mid-left) were starting to gather Victorian row houses among the

older dairy, goat and vegetable farms. For a look at what led to this stage of neighborhood evolution, turn to pages 14 and 15. PHOTO COURTESY GREG GAAR COLLECTION

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# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Latvian-Americans Cherish Baltic Memories

By Jeff Kuliss

Facing a roomful of kids each Saturday at the Latvian Hall on Hoffman Avenue, Mirdza Sarkanbards imparts her pride in her native Balkan country. "I'm telling them it's the most beautiful country in the world," she admits, "and that the Latvian language is the most beautiful language."

Sarkanbards' adopted homestead, high up on 22nd Street above Castro, abounds with pictures and poetry books that argue her claim. Lovely knit searves and mittens, and a bowl full of amber beads (all

traditional Latvian handicrafts) grace her home. Sarkanbards' collection of Latvian paintings, as well as recordings of Latvian folk and classical compositions, also attest to the rich culture of an ancient land no bigger than the state of Washington.

The country and its language, preserved in the memories of hundreds of expatriates now living in the Bay Area, are as strangely fascinating as they are beautiful. Overrun for centuries by its huge Russian and German neighbors (it's now a Soviet republic), Latvia nevertheless held onto a tongue that has more in

common with ancient Sanskrit than with any contemporary Eurasian language.

It also preserved a love of song. As Sarkanbards notes, "There is no thing we wouldn't write a song about—every tree, every flower, every happening in your life since you were born and since you die."

Niida Strauss, a Latvian-born soprano now living on Church Street, recounts the lyrics of a plaint dating from a long period of German occupation in the 15th and 16th centuries. "The little peasant girl goes into the field and prays to the

*Continued on Page 9*

## It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood... Most of the Time

By Denise Minor

The Friends are making some enemies. The Friends of Noe Valley, that is.

Anonymous flyers denouncing the neighborhood organization appeared on telephone poles and in area mailboxes during April and May. "Big Brother is here," states one of the sheets. "He tried to protect you from Walgreens, i.e., from low prices and convenience. Now he wants to get into your home. He wants to tell you how to live your life."

*Continued on Page 2*

## The Voice Takes a Cure for the Summertime Blues

We start each month knowing we've got to earn some money—if we want to buy some type to paste up on the fourth Sunday. Well, we made each deadline even though we were sick—took the copies to the P.O. and gave the stamps a lick. But it's time to take a break from the neighborhood news, and we think we've found a cure for the Summertime Blues.

We'll take the next four weeks and have a fine vacation. We'll be back in August for the September issue's creation. For our next issue's deadlines, please make note: Aug. 15 for editorial, Aug. 20 for ads, or you'll miss September's boat. While we're out in the sun enjoying, we'll wish the same for you, and we'll return as a refreshed and invigorated crew. □



Twenty-second Street resident Mirdza Sarkanbards surrounds herself with mementos of her native Latvia, including necklaces made from amber (dzintars in Latvian), taken from the Baltic Sea. She also teaches at the Latvian Hall on Hoffman Avenue. PHOTO BY MARIELLA POLI



## Friend or Foe

Continued from Page 1

Another broadside warns property owners that the Friends "want to enter your home and force you to spend thousands of dollars to make structural changes."

Still another flyer, titled "The Noes Valley Voice," targets Claire Pilcher, one of the founders and a longtime activist in the Friends. "Pilcher," as she's called in the computer-generated flyer, "will soon be leaving for Tehran to become the Minister of Justice for the Islamic Republic of Iran."

No one has stepped forward to claim responsibility for the essays, but three recurring themes could serve as clues to the author's identity: references to the Friends' efforts to uncover illegal construction in the neighborhood, requests that residents not sign any Friends' petitions, and personal digs at Pilcher.

The Friends refuse to speculate publicly on who their nemesis might be, however. Pilcher is irritated that the writer did not have the courage to sign his or her name and that he or she got so much publicity from the stunt. "I've worked within the neighborhood for 25 years, and to think that one thing like this could cause so much flack," she said. To top things off, some of Pilcher's clients from her law practice even received the flyers.

Pilcher has seen two separate sets of letters, one with a much less sophisticated style of writing than the other, which leads her to believe there are actually two different authors.

Also in May, Bob Gibney of 464 Hoffman Ave. registered his complaints about Pilcher and the Friends in a letter sent to the *Voice* and Friends' co-presidents Bill Sigman and Jacques Bertrand. The letter states that Pilcher has used intimidation to try to stop a remodeling project at 455 Hoffman, a two-unit house owned by Marvin and Deborah Israel.

(The Israels applied for a permit to refurbish a living area next to their garage. Zoning administrator Robert Passmore then discovered that the house did not provide adequate parking for two units. He denied their permit and ruled that the Israels must provide tandem parking in the garage, but his decision was overruled by the Board of Permit Appeals.)

"I believe that your organization will be injuring itself if it does not take into consideration the ill will that has built up over the years because of the methods, overzealousness and intolerant attitude displayed by some members of your organization in pursuit of their goals," Gibney wrote.

Gibney also hung a sign in his front window, across the street from the Pilcher residence, which read, "Who elected Claire Pilcher?" He says, however, that he is not the author of the defamation flyers and that he believes others in Noe Valley also bear grudges against the Friends.

Pilcher says she hasn't seen Gibney's letter, but denies ever intimidating anyone in the 455 Hoffman case. "Some neighbors came to me and asked me to find out what was going on down the street because they noticed there were three front doors at the house where there

## LETTERS 25¢

### Uncouth Kids at Noe Courts

Editor:

The reason for this letter is the park on 24th Street and Douglass [Noe Courts]. Being a resident and businessman of Noe Valley for two or three years, I have, as well as my wife and employees, found the park and its facilities very enjoyable. Within the last two months, however, many of the youngsters who attend the nearby schools have at school day's end begun to disrupt the enjoyment and pleasantness that we all so loved.

For example, one day in May my wife and I played tennis at the court in the park. When we arrived, six children were seated talking on the bench on the west side of the tennis courts. Since they neither had the equipment nor the inclination to play tennis, they said, "Sure, go ahead."

When we started to volley, the children almost immediately raised the volume of their conversation. Two of the children stood next to the fence that separates the park and the house next to it on 24th Street. Two others stood in the shrubbery behind the bench, laughing and yelling at the two who were alternately standing and kneeling by the fence. The two left on the bench watched my wife and me and the two in the shrubbery kneeling by the fence. Finally, due to the immense laughing and overall racket, my wife asked the children if they wouldn't leave and play somewhere else. Then we both walked toward the youngsters. When we neared the bench, the odor told us what

the children were really doing: defecating for each other's evidently rather sick sense of humor.

This illustrates the problem these children have integrating themselves into the park. Perhaps only a measure of instruction in park etiquette is in order, or maybe something more tangible is needed, such as a park monitor when these particular youngsters are in attendance.

Larry Kimzey  
Diamond Street

### Farewell Card to Elsie Young

Editor:

It saddens me and many Noe Valley residents to learn that Elsie Young died in May (*see story, page 5, this issue*). She ran Star Greeting Cards for many years. (Wells Fargo Bank now occupies the space.) It was a joy to go into her shop and browse through the different gift items and cards.

Elsie was always meticulously dressed, and her hair was perfect, a testimony to the Noe Valley beauty shops she frequented. Her omnipresent little dogs (Chihuahuas) were her pride and joy.

Elsie listened to many people who just needed someone to talk to while she "tended the store." It seems this is a service no longer available on hectic 24th Street. Shopkeepers are so rushed now.

Elsie Young, you'll always be a "Star" in Noe Valley. Thank you for lighting up 24th Street!

Terry Verbish  
Sanchez Street

had been just two," she said.

Since she is an attorney who has worked on numerous housing issues in Noe Valley, Pilcher served as a spokesperson for the 15 other Hoffman Avenue residents who supported Passmore's call for extra parking in the Israels' small garage. They claimed there was already a serious shortage of parking on the street, she said.

As for the Friends' official response to Gibney, organization co-president Sigman said he replied with a letter that said, "We're a group of volunteers, and we work as best we can within that framework. If he [Gibney] has a complaint, he's welcome to come to our meetings and try to affect our policy."

Sigman understands that Gibney may be on the opposite side of the fence from Claire Pilcher on the 455 Hoffman issue, but she is only one member of the organization. "Unfortunately, there are times when some of our members may do things that irritate people," he said.

Like Sigman, Friends' planning committee chair John Stalp argues that the Friends of Noe Valley, both as a group and as individuals, are bound to make a few enemies by the nature of their work. In the last couple of years, they have alerted the city about the commercial use of residential property, the unnecessary demolition of historically significant homes, and any building proposals that they feel do not fit in with the local architecture and population density.

"When you take a stand on issues that

involve large sums of money—hundreds of thousands of dollars are at stake on some of these projects—some people are bound to get mad," said Stalp. "One guy even drew up papers to sue me."

Gibney says he's not sure a volunteer organization has the right to do the job of the police and zoning departments. And he wonders how the organization selects the issues and developments it will fight against. "Do the Friends of Noe Valley have guidelines? Do they have standards?" asked Gibney. "They've got to address these issues. They can't just hide behind the good things they do."

Furthermore, he believes that certain members, those with personal vendettas, try to give the impression that they are backed by the organization when they are not. "Are some of these people just loose canons out working on their own, or are they representing the Friends?" he demanded.

Sigman concedes that some Friends have used the organization's banner to launch their own pet projects without full consensus of the group. For instance, at March hearings for a proposal to open a comedy club, the Holy City Zoo, at the Courtyard Cafe on 24th Street, some of those opposing the license presented their opinions as if they were representative of the Friends membership, "when in reality the majority of the Friends were not opposed to it [the comedy club]," Sigman said.

However, Sigman disagrees with the charge that his group is trying to play



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policeman. Instead, the Friends are giving individuals the kind of leverage with city bureaucracy that they would not otherwise have.

"As an individual, the Planning Department doesn't give a damn about you. They put you on hold for 45 minutes, then tell you that you have the wrong department, and refer you somewhere else. You call that department, and they refer you back to the department you just called," he said. "Well, our planning committee has found ways to get through this hogwash."

In fact, Stalp's committee recently reported 18 allegedly illegal commercial uses of residential property in the neighborhood, and zoning administrator Passmore has already moved to enforce conformity at two of the properties.

The Planning Department is woefully understaffed, Sigman noted, and as a result, zoning violations are often overlooked. If organized residents like the Friends don't continue to fight the more flagrant cases, the housing stock in Noe Valley will diminish even further.

"There is a loss of housing. It's happening all over 24th Street. I know firsthand of an apartment that was displaced by a publishing company," Sigman said. "On the other hand, there are businesses operated out of homes, but they're not displacing anyone. So [the Friends] just look the other way."

"We're not policing," he said. "We're just keeping an eye out." □

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# Noe Firehouses Equipped with Heart-Starters

By Jeanne Alexander

Chances of survival have doubled for Noe Valley residents who suffer a heart attack, now that the neighborhood's fire stations have been equipped with defibrillators—machines that act as electric heart-starters.

Engine 11 on 26th Street, Engine 24 on Hoffman, and Engine 26 at Digby and Addison are among the 32 engine companies whose crews were trained in the use of defibrillators this spring. By September all 41 of the city's fire stations will be equipped with the life-saving devices.

Lt. Richard Allen, medical coordinator of the San Francisco Fire Department, says that by minimizing the amount of time that elapses from the collapse of a victim to the delivery of an electric shock to his heart, a rescuer can dramatically increase his chances of survival. The critical period is six to eight minutes after cardiac arrest.

According to Allen, the Fire Department's engines arrive on the scene an average of three minutes after a 911 emergency call, while ambulance response is six to seven minutes at best. "Since we're able to reach the patient first, our medical response team can provide immediate aid until the paramedics or a doctor arrive and can take over. We have saved seven so far," he declared.

At Engine 24, Lt. Kevin Gonzalves explained that each company's medical response team was composed of three or four people—generally an officer and three firefighters. When called to the scene, two members of the team check the victim for absence of pulse and breath and begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), while a third sets up the



A defibrillator operated by an emergency firefighter team like this one, from Station 24 on Hoffman Avenue, could save the life of a heart attack victim. Practicing on mannequin Annie are, clockwise from left, Kevin Gonzalves, Michael Creedon, and Terry Smith.

PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

defibrillator.

By opening the machine's case, the

rescue worker automatically activates a tape recorder, into which he records his

actions. After placing the two defibrillator pads in the appropriate location on the patient's chest, he then administers the first of a set of three electric "heartstarts." The machine analyzes the patient's condition and prints instructions on the monitor screen.

"Saving people is basically what we're here for," Gonzalves said, noting that about 75 percent of the calls the Fire Department receives involve medical emergencies, not fires. And then there are the calls to get cats out of trees (once Gonzalves had to bring down an escaped parrot) and requests for help with a leak in the plumbing. "We seem to be the first number people call when there's a problem," he observed.

Training on the defibrillator is practiced on both live participants and on a plastic doll named Resusci-Anne, "the first woman we had in the Fire Department," said Gonzalves with a smile.

Nicknamed Annie, she is a limber, life-size blond mannequin who wears a blue ski outfit and folds effortlessly into a suitcase. Constructed by a noted doll maker and designed for teaching CPR, Annie has a chest that rises and falls when air is blown in through her nose and mouth.

Firefighters are also using her to help perfect their placement of the two defibrillator pads—the white one on her right sternal border and the red one on the region above her heart.

There's a legend that follows Annie and her dreamy, slightly sad expression into every firehouse, Gonzalves said. It goes like this: the doll maker modeled her face after the death mask of a young woman who was found drowned in the River Seine in Paris. There was no evidence of violence, and it was assumed that she had drowned herself. The doll maker, moved by the beauty of this young person taken in death, found her face ideal for use in teaching how to save lives.

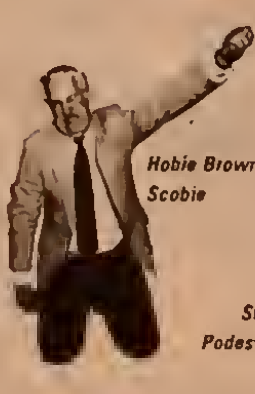
And as Lt. Gonzalves emphasized, "Saving lives is what firefighters are all about." □

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# Honk If You Need a Place To Park

By Larry Beresford

Parking in Noe Valley is one of those perennial problems like the weather—everybody talks about it, but nobody does anything about it.

A recent hearing held in the neighborhood by the San Francisco Parking Authority demonstrated that there are few new solutions to the problem, only recycled old solutions. And future relief from the parking crunch will depend on the neighborhood's getting on the horn to City Hall.

The regular meeting of the Parking Authority was held June 8 at the Noe Valley Library so that commissioners could hear firsthand what residents and merchants felt about parking problems in the neighborhood.

"We tend to get a mixed message from Noe Valley, and other neighborhoods scream louder about their parking needs," Parking Authority Commission Chair Todd Dickinson told the *Voice*.

According to a 1986 study by the Department of City Planning, he noted, Noe Valley was ranked eighth of 10 city districts in need of comprehensive planning strategies for their parking problems.

At the meeting, attended by about a dozen people, Parking Authority Assistant Director Kevin Hagerty outlined the existing and potential sources of new parking space in Noe Valley:

First, the agency could build a new public parking lot or garage to supplement the cramped 16-space lot located off 24th Street between Castro and Noe. But despite long-standing negotiations with owners over several sites—including the current Walgreens parking lot, the Noe Valley Autoworks garage, and



A paucity of parking places and a scourge of double-parked vehicles make the going tough along 24th Street, even on a Thursday afternoon. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS.

the Second Spanish Baptist Church property next to Bell Market—the city has been unable to acquire any land in the neighborhood for new public parking.

Another way to free up some room for cars would be to establish diagonal or perpendicular parking on wide side streets, such as Sanchez between Elizabeth and Jersey. This could produce up to six new parking places per block.

The city could reduce the size of some metered on-street parking spaces from the standard 22 feet to 20 feet—thus creating one new parking space for every 10 existing parking spaces in a block.

Yellow and red curb zones could be converted to legal parking.

Police and meter maids could issue more parking tickets, thereby dissuading people from driving to 24th Street and other congested areas.

Finally, lettered preferential parking zones, which currently limit daytime parking to two hours for non-permit holders in 20 other city neighborhoods, could be enacted in Noe Valley. But such an approach only works when the problem is primarily caused by outsiders parking in the neighborhood during the day and

when there are enough parking spaces to go around for all the permit holders.

"It is our feeling that most of the people who are looking for parking in this neighborhood are not from out of town," but rather residents of Noe Valley or adjoining districts, said Hagerty. "One of the reasons the streets are clogged is because people keep driving around the block looking for a place to park."

Another reason is that Noe Valley hasn't presented a united front on the parking issue. According to the Parking Authority staff, most of the above solutions need to be initiated through formal requests by residents or merchants, and the city has not received such requests from this neighborhood.

"There needs to be a cohesive and consistent approach from the neighborhood," Dickinson emphasized.

Of those attending the hearing, 24th Street realtor Harry Aleo, an officer in the Noe Valley Merchants Association, voiced support for better enforcement of existing parking regulations, particularly the one-hour meter limits. He pointed out that "a lot of merchants are defeating their own purpose" by illegally feeding the meters for their own cars all day.

"I think we have to address the overuse of automobiles," said Miriam Blaustein, a longtime neighborhood activist and Friends of Noe Valley member. "We are inundated by cars, and people aren't walking." Although she does not oppose the creation of new parking spaces through such means as diagonal parking, Blaustein spoke against the construction of a Noe Valley parking garage, which would "just bring more cars in."

She also suggested that 24th Street should be closed off occasionally to create a strolling mall and that shuttle buses for shoppers could be run on 24th Street.

Across the city, the parking situation has been complicated by the passage last year of Proposition D, which will combine the city's scattered traffic and parking regulatory agencies into a single Department of Parking and Traffic. Mayor Art Agnos announced his appointments to this new commission in June. But it may take up to a year for the commissioners to be confirmed and sworn in, for a director to be hired, for existing ordinances to be revised, and for the department to be up and running.

In the meantime, residents and merchants can call or write Parking Authority Director Phil Chin with ideas on diagonal parking, potential sites for a parking lot, or other suggestions. He can be reached at 558-4675 or at 25 Van Ness Ave., Suite 410, San Francisco, CA 94102.

San Francisco Supervisor Bill Maher, who has spoken out recently against increasing penalties for parking violations or using the city's parking fund for non-parking purposes, also offered to help act on the neighborhood's parking ideas. "People should send letters to me or, better yet, write the president of the Board of Supervisors at City Hall and request that copies be distributed to the entire board," Maher said.

Dickinson agrees that "it might behoove the merchants and residents groups to get together and petition the city. It is truly a matter of the squeaky wheel getting attention."



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# Goodby, Elsie, Our Star of Greeting Cards

By Jeff Kaliss

For over 30 years she was Noe Valley's "Card Lady." And for 30 years, until her death this May, Elsie Young lived in an apartment behind her Star Greeting Cards on 24th Street, the homey little store that stood where the Wells Fargo Bank now stands.

Elsie came to the States from Germany when she was 19, in 1925, and danced her way across her adopted country with a traveling chorus line. She settled in "the" Noe Valley 35 years ago, and shortly thereafter opened her friendly shop, which also featured an array of arcane knickknacks.

In 1972 Elsie married Gus Young in Las Vegas. It was a second marriage for both; widower Gus had been married to Elsie's older sister for 50 years. Through the seventies, Elsie was a reassuring sight, standing in front of her shop with her little dog Honey under her arm.

"She'd go out on the street and be thrilled," recalls Elsie's neighbor and close friend, Wave Geber. "And her joy was to go up the [apartment building] steps when the sun was setting and look at it."



Elsie Young and her 24th Street card shop are both gone now, but they will long be remembered. Elsie posed for this 1981 Voice photo with her husband, Gus. PHOTO BY IRENE KANE

"She liked the weather, not too hot, not too cold," adds Gus, now 93. "And she got along very well with the other German people in the neighborhood."

Elsie was a favorite hair-styling customer across the street at the Doll House, where memorial poems were posted after her death on May 3. She also kept in close touch with Dorothy and Jess Mack, who were on the road with her 65 years ago and now run a talent agency in Las Vegas.

Little Honey died nine years ago, not long before the sale of Star Greeting Cards, one of the neighborhood's last old-time stores. Elsie is survived by her husband and by the neighborhood's lasting fondness for her. Her neighbor suggests that donations in Elsie's memory be directed to the SPCA.

Elsie once said, "Everyone always needs greeting cards." If we knew how, we'd send her one, decorated with a sentimental Noe Valley sunset. □

# Hunger-Striker Ends His Fast

By Mark Robinson

After he fasted for 5½ months and lost 80 pounds, a gay man living in the Castro ended his hunger strike on May 14. The fast, which began on Jan. 2, was designed to force the passage of laws prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals and people with positive HIV status.

Although his demands were not met, Stuart McDonald ended his hunger strike after seeing a movie, *The Last Temptation of Christ*. Exhausted and experiencing blackouts, he came to a revelation. "I realized Christ had to die to save those people, but I didn't have to," McDonald said in an interview last month.

"I was staring death in the face, and now I'm running away from it as fast as I can."

McDonald said he had expected the hunger strike to succeed. But now he thinks that view was politically naive. "I realized that the people I was trying to get to weren't going to budge." He is especially disappointed in Sen. Pete Wilson, who was the target of intense lobbying by McDonald and his supporters. "[Wilson] was completely ready to let me die."

After his first bit of food—a glass of protein powder—McDonald couldn't sleep for two days. "It was euphoria, like pure drug-induced euphoria," he said. From a low of 125 pounds, McDonald, who is HIV-positive, gained 30 pounds in 2½ weeks. He is exercising regularly and says he feels great.

Though he'll continue to speak his mind on problems in the gay community, McDonald plans to stay out of the public spotlight for a while. "The only thing I can think of now is finding myself a place in the world, because right now I really don't have one."

"I'm broke," he said. "I spent all my money on that damn hunger strike." □

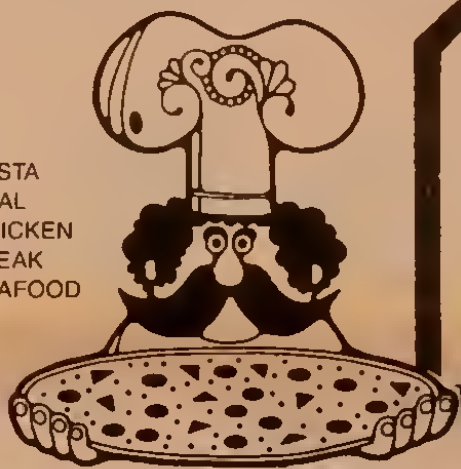


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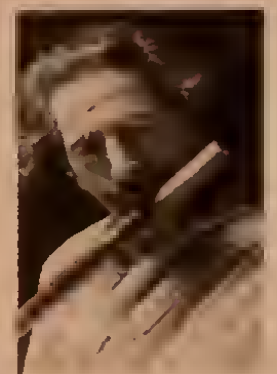


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Streetfare Journal editor George Evans was reluctant to have his picture taken for this story, but he provided us with alternative imagery—this poem published in his book *Wrecking* in 1988.



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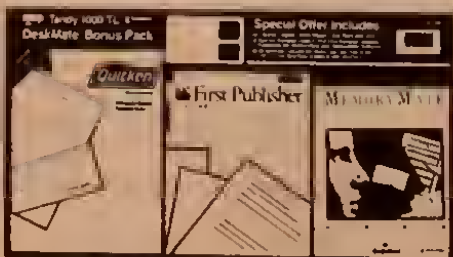
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## Streetfare Journal

Continued from Page 7

bank and then disappeared into the hills in the distance. The work itself assumes a bird's-eye perspective of the city below.

The strongly Irish and working class neighborhood that Evans found when he first moved to Noe Valley can be detected in the poems contained in *Wrecking*. One gets a sense of the characters Evans might have met—the gritty, clipped language they spoke, the work they did.

Yet as much as Evans' own writing

stems from certain places, it also comes from his own life. *Nightvision* echoes his experiences as an Air Force staff sergeant in charge of the night crew of an emergency triage center in Vietnam.

And his current work-in-progress, a first novel that has been five years in the making, is semi-autobiographical—a first-person narrative about a 12-year-old runaway living on the streets. Part of the novel was published as a chapbook, *Parts Unknown*, earlier this year in England.

Evans' efforts as editor of the *Streetfare Journal* relate to his days as a homeless vagabond. They speak, as it were, to those of us also in transit. □



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## From Latvia with Love

*Continued from Page 1*

sun. "Go to the sunset so I can have a little rest. Those mean harons give me so much work."

The lyrics of hundreds of thousands of these songs were collected for the first Latvian Song Festival at the capital city of Riga in 1873, and it was found that there were more songs than there were Latvians. At that point in its history, Latvia was largely under the political and educational influence of tsarist Russia. But during the revolution some 40 years later, crack Latvian troops were among those who managed to propel Lenin and the Bolsheviks into power in the Kremlin.

Some Latvians chose to flee the chaos of the revolution and World War I, and a few of these emigrants ended up in San Francisco. Those who stayed at home managed to establish an independent nation that enjoyed a brief period of freedom from 1918 to 1940.

This freedom came to a troubled end in the early days of World War II. Urged on by Stalin, Russian troops rumbled into Riga in June of 1940. "It happened so suddenly," recalls Diamond Street resident Ilmars Bins, who was a young boy at that time. "I heard that two of my uncles on my mother's side had disappeared during the night. The secret police just gathered up people without any warning, anybody who was on their list for some reason." Bins' uncles had been long-time members of the nationalistic Latvian Liberation Movement.

A year later, the Russians were pushed back by the advance of their ancient enemies, the Germans, but the tide reversed again in 1944, and the victorious Russians returned. In the face of collectivization of the economy and deportation of thousands of patriotic Latvians, the largest wave of emigration carried Bins, Strauss, Sarkanbards, their families and many other Latvians to other shores.

Some of the emigrants at first lived in camps in Germany, hoping for a quick return to their homeland. "You had to say 'Heil Hitler,'" remembers Sarkanbards, who, like Strauss, was a college-age girl during that experience. "If one of the Latvians showed that he was against Hitler, then he was gone."

After the Allied victory in 1945, jobs in Germany were scarce. Working-age Latvians unwilling to go home to communism had to seek employment elsewhere, through the intercession of foreign sponsors. It was thus that Strauss came to San Francisco in 1949 at the invitation of an aunt, while Sarkanbards and her mother and stepsister landed in Arizona in 1950 under the auspices of the Baptist Church. Bins, who emigrated with his mother and older sister, became



*The 70-voice Dzintars chorus, visiting from the U.S.S.R., donned Latvian folk costumes to sing in Latvian Hall's auditorium last April. Their soaring melodies were heard by an emotional and enthusiastic crowd of expatriates. PHOTO BY ED BURN.*

a teenaged farm worker in New Jersey in 1950.

When Bins passed through San Francisco on his way to serve in the Korean War a few years later, he was able to find several common Latvian names in the phone book and to establish a few contacts. By the time he was discharged from the Army in 1956, he was ready to settle down to a domestic life as an engineer and a loyal member of the local San Francisco Latvian community.

That same year, the community pooled its resources to purchase what had been the Finnish Hall on Hoffman Avenue between 24th and 25th streets. Primarily Lutheran, as most Latvians have been for centuries, the local Latvians held Sunday services in a small chapel in the basement of their new building. The large hall upstairs became the site of marriages, dances and musical events. It was at a classical recital at the newly christened

Latvian Hall that soprano Strauss, who was working at an office to support her music studies, met her husband Hugo, a pianist and fellow Latvian with a German surname.

The hall also hosted a Latvian school on Saturdays, where Sarkanbards was a principal teacher. Kids from kindergarten through high school learned Latvian history, geography, songs and language, and joined their parents on Sunday to offer prayers for the well-being of their relatives back home beside the Baltic. In 1958, Sarkanbards' stepsister Rasma married Bins at the hall.

The passing decades have not diminished Latvian pride, but have wrought their inevitable changes on emigrant populations. Bins notes that there was less of a generation gap in the old days between Latvians who had come over after the first and second world wars. "We sang the same songs, we danced to

the same music," he says, "whereas today the young people are more separate, they have their own world."

Nevertheless, Bins' 24-year-old son, Peter, a commercial art student at San Francisco State, still lives at home and attends many of the activities at the hall. He also plays with a championship Latvian-American volleyball team that competes worldwide. Being of Latvian extraction is "almost like being in a fraternity," claims the father. "You can travel anywhere and find new friends."

Most Latvians have made at least one trip back to the homeland. Bins' pilgrimage was in 1983, exactly 39 years after he'd left. "It was very emotional... so little had changed," he testifies. "Any visitor from the outside was like a visitor from the moon, so you went from house to house with coffee and cognac."

Sarkanbards, in 1987, found more of "a sad look... everything is very unkept."

The recent glasnost/perestroika campaign of Soviet premier Mikhail Gorbachev has cast some rays of sunshine on the Baltic states and has also gotten them more attention in the West. "With the news media reporting so much on Latvia, the young people feel proud," says Bins.

The Soviets' first hatch of general elections this spring shook up the Latvian political structure, which had been dominated by the ethnic Russians who moved into the Baltic republic by the thousands in the '40s and '50s. When the votes were counted in March, Popular Front candidates, ethnically Latvian, had won a majority. A few months earlier, the Latvians had been allowed to reinstate their own flag and anthem.

And in mid-April, the 70-woman Dzintars chorus (named for the Latvian word for amber) flew into San Francisco on passports issued from their own capital city of Riga rather than Moscow. On the day before their appearance at Davies Hall, the Dzintars descended on Noe Valley's Latvian Hall, decked out in their folk dresses and crowns, for an afternoon concert bursting with sentiment and national pride. Tears of joy were shared by both audience members and performers.

The political future of Latvia, like most of the rest of the world, is uncertain. By now, most expatriate Latvians have abandoned their dreams of living in their native land and are content with an occasional visit. They gather for annual music and arts festivals around the U.S.

This year's gathering will take place in Los Angeles later this month, and the San Francisco Latvian Hall will send its own choir and folk dance troupe.

"All these years, we've tried to maintain for our people the Latvian spirit, the Latvian flavor," declares Strauss, who will join Bins and Sarkanbards at the festival. "Now it's time for the young people—but it's up to the parents to pull them." □

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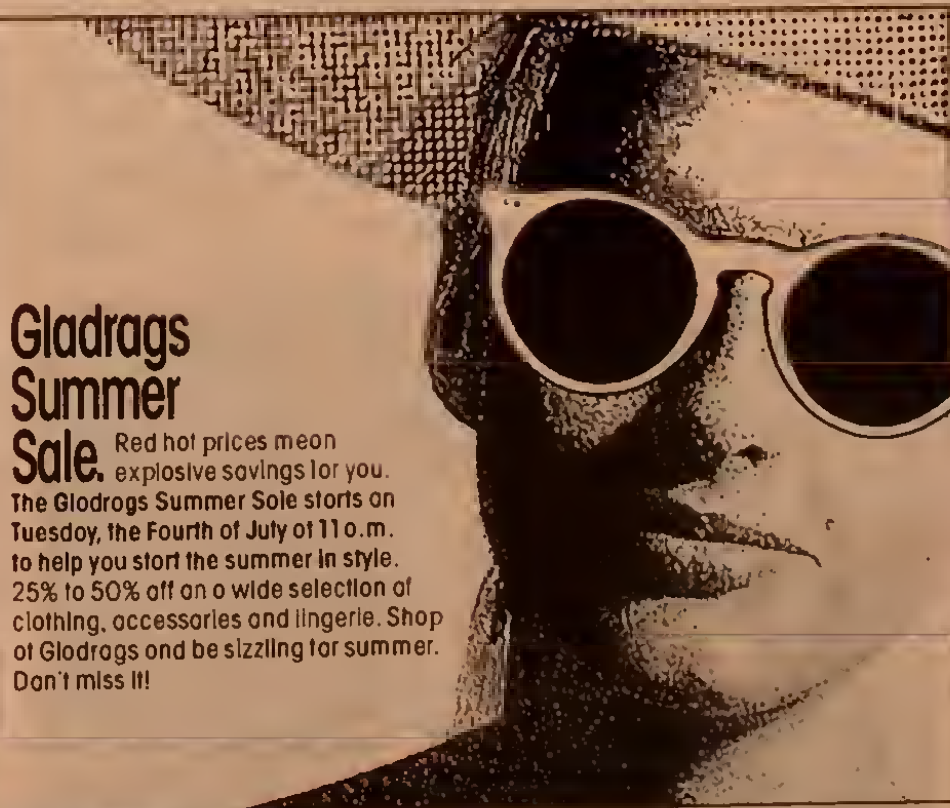
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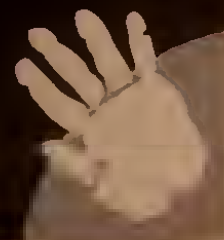
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## Bench Goes, Floor Glows

A sign appeared in early June, posted on the tree shading Colorcrane Arts & Copy Center at 3957 24th St. It read: "Colorcrane's bench has been removed. Any information appreciated. No questions asked... 15 years of community service."

That's right—for 15 years the same reliable wooden bench served many 24th Street strollers as well as Colorcrane patrons. Owner Tom Crane usually just pulled the bench off the street and into his store at closing time, but occasionally, over the years, the trusty old seat was forgotten and left outside overnight. On the last Saturday in May, that's what happened—only this time the bench disappeared. And so far, no one has offered any information.

But though Colorcrane lost a bench last month, it gained a floor... a floor painting, that is, created by Colorcrane manager and artist Margaret Daley. Titled "The City of Heights," this dazzling underfoot display, done in interior latex and coated with polyurethane, gives a bird's-eye view of San Francisco, guaranteed to make most customers a little dizzy.

Daley worked on the painting for 150 hours, over a period of three months. "I wanted to create a whole other dimension for people," she said. "They walk in on the fog and then fall into the city."

On June 30 Colorcrane marked the completion of "The City of Heights" with a champagne and hors d'oeuvres party and "floor-showing"—which conveniently coincided with Daley's birthday.

## Library Gives Kids Power

The Noe Valley Library's summer reading program got under way July 1, but kids up to age 13 can still sign up to play "Flights of Fancy," a reading game that explores the mystical worlds of folklore and myth—from Pegasus and

# SHORT TAKES



Little Rosamund Miller, 3½, is careful not to fall into the "City of Heights," a new floor painting in Colorcrane by Margaret Daley, the store's manager. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

Anansi to Paul Bunyon and the Cyclops.

For each book read, game players take a spin on the game board that will lead them to the discovery of many diverse cultures and tales from around the world. Buttons and kites will be awarded to those who finish the game, which ends Aug. 11.

And that's not all. Kids ages 10 to 16 are also encouraged to learn more about the library by joining Kid Power, a summer volunteer work program. Those teens who want the opportunity to learn new skills and gain work experience will be considered official library staff. One of their jobs will be to help other kids play the summer reading game. The minimum summer commitment for Kid Power volunteers is five hours.

For more information on either program, give Children's Librarian Debby Jeffery a call at 285-2788.

## Flea Market Pays Off

The combined efforts of the Upper Noe Neighbors, along with parents and teachers at Buena Vista Alternative Elementary School, made for a "hugely successful" Upper Noe Valley Flea Market last April 8. Sales for the one-day fundraiser tallied \$2,800, reports Janice Gendreau, an Upper Noe Neighbor who helped organize the event at Buena Vista School.

"The weather that day was almost too cooperative!" she said. (Temperatures reached record highs in the mid-90s.)

"But our patrons sought relief in the school entryway, where homemade baked goods and cool beverages were sold."

Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward improving the school's library and for landscaping around Buena Vista. All leftover goods from the flea market were donated to local charities.

## Locate Your Bioregion

Where does your water come from? What are native plants? How do you get a permit to plant a tree? How do you begin a recycling program? How do you get plastic food containers hanned?

Noe Valley local Peter Berg, co-author of the recently published book *A Green City Program for San Francisco Bay Area Cities and Towns*, will address these questions when he discusses his ecological vision for the Shasta Bioregion (Northern California) at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., on Wednesday, July 26, at 7:30 p.m.

*A Green City Program* grew out of an environmental educational organization, the Planet Drum Foundation, founded by Berg and Judy Goldhaft in 1974. Planet Drum (which has offices in Noe Valley) uses a grassroots approach to ecology that emphasizes the concept of "bioregions" or "whole-life places" that contain distinct, interconnected plant and animal communities.

If you can't make it to the book party but want to find out more, write to Planet Drum Foundation, P.O. Box 31251, San Francisco, CA 94131. Shasta Bioregion, U.S.A.

## Red Dragons Need Pennies

The Red Dragons Children's Group, which works out of an office in the Women's Building at 3543 18th St., wants to know "if you have any pennies

*Continued on Page 12*

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Continued from Page 11

you don't know what to do with." If you do, they ask that you donate them to their "Pennies for Pencils/Bucks for Books" campaign.

The Red Dragons is a group of industrious kids who are traveling door-to-door, raising money to support a school in San Jose las Flores in Chalatenango province, El Salvador. "Many thousands of people," states the Red Dragons flyer, "were driven out of their homes in the Salvadoran countryside because of the bombing and death squads."

"For the last two years, people have been returning to their villages where they have had to rebuild their houses, their schools and their farms. The schools are especially important because many of the children do not know how to read or write."

In the past three years, the Red Dragons have collected \$1,500 and sent 40,000 pencils to kids in Central America.

Pennies can be dropped off at Pueblo to People, 3900 24th St. (at Sanchez), or contributors can call 861-6515, and one of the kids will make a pickup right at your door.

### High School Alumni Alert

Two San Francisco high schools are currently planning reunions and scouring San Francisco neighborhoods, Noe Val-

ley included, for alumni.

Lowell High School's graduating class of June 1970 is planning its 20th reunion. Members of this class are asked to send their names and addresses to Lowell Reunion, 3110 Laguna, Apt. 1, San Francisco, CA 94123.

And Mission High School's June and December classes of 1939 will be holding their 50-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Grosvenor Airport in South San Francisco. Contact Iris Conti Allegrini, 97 Lapham Way, San Francisco, CA 94124, or phone Iris, 584-6314, or Eleanor Moran Devine, (707) 763-3321, to get the scoop on this reunion.

### Want a Free Lunch?

The Mayor's Summer Food Program, now in its seventh year, is once again serving hot lunches, bag lunches and snacks to children ages 18 and under.

The program, which is fully funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, serves meals at 120 San Francisco sites, including Douglass Park (26th and Douglass), Upper Noe Recreation Center (Day and Sanchez), Christopher Playground (Diamond Heights Boulevard next door to the Safeway shopping center), and Glen Park (Elk and Cheney).

Lunches are generally served between noon and 2 p.m. For exact times, call the individual sites. For general information, check with the Summer Food Program Hotline, 558-5953. The program will be in operation until Aug. 25.



### Saturday Respite Program

St. Mary's Adult Day Health Care Center, at 35 Onondaga St. in the outer Mission, now offers a Saturday Socialization Program for seniors diagnosed with dementia. Participants must be generally continent, ambulatory, and able to pay a weekly fee ranging from \$18 to \$30.

Staffed by a recreation therapist, a driver-program assistant, and many volunteers, the program (which is the only Saturday program of its kind in the city) features reality orientation and reminiscence, exercise and movement, music and singing, arts and crafts, and outings.

Citywide van service from specified locations is available at \$7.50 per round trip.

Contact program manager Grace D'Anca at 334-4000 for further information.

### Rain Forest Festival

Save the Rain Forests Day, a fair at Fort Mason, will be held on Saturday, July 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is a day for people of all ages to come together and celebrate the world's rain forests—and to learn about how to save them. The Noe Valley Samba Dancers and Rain Forest Drummers, dressed in costumes representing the Amazonian rain forest, will bring the day to life amid a festival of joyful sounds and serious discussions.

Also on hand will be guest speakers discussing the impact of deforestation on ecology, world climate, medical research, and the preservation of the forest homelands of indigenous people and endangered species. Movies and slide shows will present the point of view of the people of the rain forest—Indians, rubber tappers and small farmers. And live animals will be on hand to remind us of the endangered species now faced with extinction. Indigenous music and food will also be served up in ample quantities.

Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$4 at the door. For tickets send \$3 per ticket to Save the Rain Forests Day, 194 27th St., San Francisco, CA 94110. For further information phone 773-9289. The entrance to Fort Mason is at Bay and Laguna adjacent to the Marina Green.

This month's Short Takes were compiled by Jane Underwood.



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By Jane Underwood

Here are the most recent updates on Noe Valley's entrepreneurial scene. The *Voice* isn't always immediately aware of new local businesses or changes in ownership, so please, if you are a new entrepreneur in our ever-changing, ever-growing neighborhood, let us know. We'll try to include you in the next *Storetrek* column.

#### Taste of Honey 1515 Church St. 647-5597

The same cookies, cakes, pies, muffins, bars and squares at the Taste of Honey natural bakery on 24th at Diamond can now also be sampled at owner Shelley Gottlieb's new Taste of Honey on Church Street. This "smaller version" of Gottlieb's popular "no sugar, no white flour" bakery/cafe also offers smoothies, juices, frozen yogurt and espresso.

Says Gottlieb, who is still posting signs and banners for the new bakery that opened April 4, "Quite a few of my 24th Street customers live closer to that area [between 27th and Duncan streets], and they told me that they'd come to the bakery more often if they didn't have to walk up the hill to 24th Street." So Gottlieb has obliged them.

She has also managed to squeeze "a little art gallery" into the small but cozy Church Street space and is currently displaying watercolors by art students at City College. "The paintings are lovely," she says, "and the atmosphere at the new bakery is really nice."

Taste of Honey number two, which seats around 12 people as compared to 20 at the elder store, is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

#### Woodbury Chiropractic 1404 Church St. 824-8088

Noe Valley resident Karen Woodbury opened the doors of Woodbury Chiropractic at Church and Army on June 19. Although it took her a while to get here (she lived in Berkeley, India, and Oakland before moving to Clipper Street a year ago), Woodbury says unashamedly,

## STORETREK



Former attorney Karen Woodbury recently opened a chiropractic clinic in the neighborhood. PHOTOS BY CHARLES KENNARD



Geoff Julian gives Laura Holland and daughter Moira a Taste of Honey II on Church Street.

"I love Noe Valley."

Woodbury treats her clients with a brand of chiropractic medicine called Directional Non-Force Technique (DNFT). This technique, she says, uses "a slight pressure with the thumbs onto the bones that creates an energy impulse into the nervous system. This realigns the bones by taking the pressure off the nerves and allowing the muscles to relax."

According to Woodbury, most of the 20 to 30 other chiropractic methods now in use rely on more forceful techniques that "cause joints to separate slightly until a slight popping noise is heard." Although both approaches can accomplish the same thing, she says, "Some people find the non-forceful method more comfortable."

Woodbury hasn't always been a chiropractor. From 1976 to 1984 she worked as a criminal trial lawyer. But after suffering whiplash in a car accident several years ago, she underwent chiropractic treatment and "was so impressed by the chiropractic help I received that I decided

to become a chiropractor myself."

Office hours at Woodbury Chiropractic are from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Most forms of insurance are accepted; cash visits are \$35 per session.

#### Video Vault 1236 Castro St. 285-8680

The old One Stop Video near the corner of 24th and Castro has a new name, but will continue to carry a broad collection of videos ranging from children's to adults' and old to new. New owner Wesley Siegel, who took over the One Stop on May 1, says he plans to increase the selection of new releases and to provide his customers with "a smooth and reliable flow" of service.

Siegel bought the video store from David Lee, who opened shop four years ago. (Lee continues to operate a One Stop Video on Geary Street, but sold his Noe Valley enterprise because he wanted

to "branch out into the restaurant and real estate business.")

Siegel, a 25-year-old substitute school teacher, says he chose the video business for a natural reason: "I like movies!"

Rates at Video Vault are \$1 for children's videos, \$2 for regular movies, \$2.50 for new releases, and \$3 for X-rated flicks. Hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday. There's also a night drop slot for those who need to return videos after hours.

#### St. Clair's Liquor 3900 24th St. 282-4900

As of June 15, St. Clair's Liquor had changed hands once again. Former owner John Moresco, who bought the store two years ago from Jean Madrieres and Ron Kuchac, says he "got an offer I just couldn't refuse." The offer came from Twin Peaks residents Samir and Teresa Alsalim, who moved to the U.S. a few months ago from Jordan, where Samir was a lieutenant colonel in the Jordanian army and his wife, Teresa, was a teacher of high school mathematics.

The Alsalims changed countries and careers in order to be close to Samir's family, all of whom live in the Bay Area and many of whom own other liquor stores here. Teresa says the couple is "sometimes excited" to be in the U.S., but "it's hard, too, because we don't speak English well yet."

Teresa, 38, and Samir, 40, are planning to expand not only the hours but also the selection of beers, wines, liquors and champagnes at St. Clair's. New hours will be 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to midnight on weekends.

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# How the Valley Was Won

By Larry Beresford

In 1848 San Francisco was a sleepy village established just 14 years earlier to accommodate the American merchants who traded with Mexican settlers around California's missions. Known until the previous year as Yerba Buena ("Good Herb"), our city was then comprised of a few hundred rude wooden shacks on the waterfront slopes of Telegraph Hill.

However, the discovery of gold at John Sutter's Mill in 1848 sparked one of the most dramatic migrations in American history. Within a few years, San Francisco—providentially located at the forty-niners' gateway to the gold fields—grew into one of the largest and most prosperous cities in the world.

Early development of the city was concentrated in the northeast quadrant of today's San Francisco (an area north and east of Mission Dolores at 18th and Mission streets). Rural areas south and west of Mission Dolores, including Noe Valley, supported mostly dairy, goat and vegetable farms, although some San Franciscans also built country homes out here for weekend retreats from the bustling city.

But by 1889 this pastoral valley had been built up, urbanized and absorbed into the city. Grazing livestock were replaced by rows of stately bay window Victorians, many of which survive to this day. How the transition occurred is not clearly documented, but a sketchy history of Noe Valley's growth and development can be pieced together from various written sources.

## The Founding of the Mission

Mission Dolores was founded and settled by Franciscan fathers under the direction of Junipero Serra in 1776, the same year that Spanish soldiers under the command of Juan Bautista de Anza established a military base and settlement at the Presidio.

In so doing, they disrupted the peaceful lives of local Costanoan Indians, who had happily occupied San Francisco and the peninsula for centuries, thanks to the benign climate and plentiful food. Some Indians were converted to the austere life of the padres, others were chased by Spanish soldiers across San Francisco Bay to the Contra Costa, and many more succumbed to measles, smallpox and other European diseases.

Starting in 1834 the extensive landholdings of California's missions were secularized and turned over to private "rancheros" (ranchers). One of those rancheros was Jose de Jesus Noe, a native

of Puebla, Mexico, who moved here with his wife and young son in 1834. Noe, who served as the last Mexican *alcade* (mayor) of Yerba Buena in 1842, also had an office downtown on Portsmouth Square, writes Chris Dichtel in an article titled "Noe: Founder of the Haight?" in the March/April 1989 Haight Ashbury *Street* newspaper.

In 1845, after considerable legal wrangling, Noe was granted title to a parcel of land called Rancho San Miguel, consisting of 4,443 acres (or about one-sixth of today's San Francisco) located roughly south of 15th Street and west of Mission Street. Moving his family to the extensive rancho from a small plot near present-day Mission and 16th Street, Noe then took up livestock ranching in earnest. The dry chaparral-covered hillsides of

Rancho San Miguel, home to flocks of geese, ducks and seabirds, were crossed by spring-fed creeks flowing into the lake and swamp east of Mission Dolores (now the inner Mission). At one time elk, antelopes, wolves, deer, rabbits, mountain lions and coyotes were a common sight here.

Through the 1850s the area around the Mission also provided amusements for pleasure seekers from the city. On the grounds of the old Mission could be found hotels, roadhouses, a gambling den, prostitutes and a brewery. Saturday night Mexican *fandangos* (dances), a race track, and gruesome bull and bear fights offered entertainment, while fine dining could be enjoyed at the Willows, Mansion House, Nightingale, Grizzley Road House, MacLaren's Hotel, Russ



Mexican-born Jose de Jesus Noe owned the neighborhood named for him and much of the surrounding territory, operated as farmland in the mid-19th century.

PHOTO COURTESY SAN FRANCISCO ARCHIVES, SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY



St. Paul's towered over a developing residential and commercial area when this shot was taken in 1911, shortly after the church's dedication. But the slopes of Diamond Heights still belonged to the farmers and Mother Nature.

PHOTO COURTESY GREG GAAR COLLECTION AND SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

## Gardens and What Cheer House.

According to Anita Day Hubbard, who wrote a series about the history of the city's neighborhoods in the 1924 San Francisco *Bulletin*, ranchers would come from beyond the hills to the south and west to buy groceries and swap yarns with the proprietors of inns near the Mission. Ranchers in and around Noe Valley raised goats, sheep, dairy cows and vegetables.

## From Country to City

In 1854 Noe sold off his rancho to brothers John and Robert Horner—Mormons and gold hunters from New Jersey. The Horners are credited with subdividing and laying out the lot and street grid pattern of "Horner's Addition" (dubbed Noe Valley by residents) starting in 1856. They also named many of our east-west streets.

A city map dating from 1868 shows the present day-streets of Noe Valley out to 30th and up to Bellvue (today called Grand View). However, it may be that some of these streets were laid out on paper long before they were dug or paved.

By 1870 the valley's truck farms, "Italian" vegetable gardens, grain fields and dairies supplied produce for the tables of San Francisco. Shortly thereafter began Noe Valley's gradual evolution from country to city.

Hubbard's description of the development of Eureka Valley, our near neighbor to the north, can also be applied to Noe Valley. "In the 1870s, when the homes began their first march into the valley,

Continued on Page 15

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# LANDMARKS

Continued from Page 14

creeping beyond the Mission District into the streets beyond Sanchez, the principal activities of the Eureka Valley were cow ranches, vegetable gardens and brick-yards," she writes.

"Over the hill from 20th Street up, the cattle of Frank Short ranged the pastures. He had a fine ranch over the brow of the hill looking down on Noe Valley. The Schaeffer Brothers had a milk ranch just back of the Mill place and below the Mountain Spring House," on Boleslaw Strozynski's farm near the present-day corner of Sanchez and 21st streets.

Roger Olmsted's book, *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage*, based on exhaustive research done by the San Francisco Junior League in the 1960s, suggests that most of the Victorian row houses standing today in Noe Valley were built in the 1880s and early 1890s. A few houses from the 1870s, such as the famous row of seven matching Italianates in the first block of Vicksburg Street, can be found north of 24th Street, but further south, most houses dating that far back were probably solitary farmhouses.

This scenario, based on water hook-up dates, would conform to Hubbard's description of the march of residential development from the Mission to Eureka Valley and then over the hill into Noe Valley. By 1889 the evolution had been accomplished.

## Noe Valley a Century Ago

A century ago Noe Valley had most of the same comforts and services as the more established neighborhoods of San Francisco. Several schools—including Fairmount, Horace Mann and James Lick—educated neighborhood children (see the May and June 1989 "Landmarks"). The Castro Street cable car had been coming over the hill from 18th to 26th streets since 1887, and the San Francisco & San Jose Railway stopped at a station at Valencia and 25th streets. St. Luke's Hospital on Army Street had been



Noe Valley got urbanized slowly, as evidenced by the lightly populated slopes in the distance of the above photograph, taken from a more densely settled Eureka Valley in 1880. (The caption marked on the original photograph, which is stored in the San Francisco Archives at the main branch of the public library, reads, "18th Street above Castro and Twin Peaks.") The contemporary photo below, shot from Corona Park above States Street, shows that there's not much space left for anything now. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD



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open since 1871. Butcher Frederick Drewes had just opened his Fairmount Market at 1706 Church St., which was soon redubbed Drewes Market, the name it bears to this day. The 1889 city directory shows that the valley had many of the same kinds of businesses found elsewhere in the city. For instance, several bakers were in business—Anton Fyalkowski on Church near 28th, Peter J. Kalh at 24th and Sanchez, and Michael Nordenschneider at 25th and Church streets.

Two barber shops operated on Church Street: W.J. Welch at the corner of 28th Street and Julius Mantel at 22nd Street. Neighborhood churches included St. Paul's, still at 29th and Church, whose cornerstone was first laid in 1880; Lebanon Presbyterian at Jersey and Sanchez Streets (today the Noe Valley Ministry); Epworth Methodist on the south side of 27th between Church and Sanchez, and Advent Christian Church on Church Street near 29th.

Where did locals find watering holes in 1889? Aurelio Barsotti, at the southeast corner of Castro and 26th streets, operated a local saloon, as did William King at 24th and Noe and J. Workman at Mission and Randall. And a Mrs. Ehmman sold liquor at a restaurant and grocery store located at 1300-06 Castro St. A larger concentration of such establishments, however, could be found on the more developed Mission and Valencia streets from 25th to 30th.

The neighborhood was also home to some prominent San Franciscans. Ferdinand Nelson, who lived at 329 29th St., had a carpentry and building partnership with William Hamerton, who lived two doors down. Better known today as Fernando, Nelson and his sons built more than 4,000 San Francisco houses between 1876 and the 1950s.

The 1889 city directory also lists a young man named James Rolph Jr., then working as a clerk at Kittle & Company and living with his father at 1210 21st St. at Chattanooga. Is this the same "Sunny Jim" Rolph born in 1869 and later the immensely popular mayor of San Francisco? □

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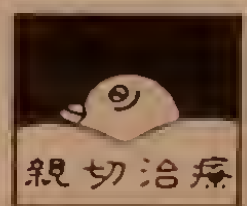
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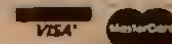
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# A Child of the Spanish Civil War Pursues His Past

By Denise Minor

When the warden snatched Amparo Barayon's nursing child away from her in the sunny Spanish prison courtyard, the woman knew she would die that night.

Separation from her child "was the first indication to a woman that she would be shot," says Amparo's son, Noe Valley resident Ramon Sender Barayon, whose recently published book, *A Death in Zamora*, chronicles his family's ordeal during the Spanish Civil War.

"So my mother hid a note to my father in my baby sister's clothes and gave another note for him to a friend in the prison," he recounts. "At midnight she was taken to a cemetery with two other women and shot by a man whom she had rejected as a suitor in her girlhood."

The circumstances surrounding Amparo Barayon's death in 1936 and, three years later, the exile to America of her famous husband, author Ramon J. Sender, only came to light for son Ramon during adulthood. In 1982 he traveled to Spain—for the first time since he had left as a 4-year-old child—to try to unravel the mystery of his own past.

The fruit of that investigation, *A Death in Zamora*, paints a vivid picture of the suffering and division caused by the war.

"It is a very moving document," writes William Herrick in a June 18 review in the *New York Times Magazine*. "Ramon Sender Barayon... in the end discovers who his mother was: a lovely, independent woman who lived with passion, who was devoted to her children and who had married a famous revolutionary writer. For all that she was murdered."

Cover to Cover Booksellers at 3910 24th St. will host a book party for Sender Barayon on Sunday, Aug. 6, from 3 to 5 p.m. Other scheduled appearances in-

clude July readings at A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books in San Francisco and at Cody's Books in Berkeley.

Last month Sender Barayon toured the East Coast to promote the book. He also visited his adoptive American mother, writer Julia Davis, in upstate New York. Davis, says 54-year-old Sender Barayon, has been a great inspiration throughout his life, not only because of her literary accomplishments, but also because of her great compassion.

When he and his sister Andrea arrived in the U.S. in 1939, Davis greeted them with open arms. "Julia had all this love and motherliness that she was able to pour out onto us," reflects Sender Barayon from the living room of his 23rd Street home. "She lived on an old 40-acre farm in Westchester County, New York. It was the ideal place for two little war-shattered kids to pull themselves together."

For two years prior to coming to America, tiny Ramon and Andrea were shuffled between orphanages in Spain and France. Finally their father took them out of a camp in southern France and left for the U.S., where he arranged through an adoption agency for Davis to have temporary custody.

Eventually the elder Sender decided that Davis could provide a better home for his children than he could, so he left them in her permanent care. His condition for doing so, however, was that Davis never tell the children about their mother's death.

"We grew up not knowing anything about our mother except sketchy details," says Sender Barayon. "We suffered from a compulsion to find out what happened, but my father kept putting roadblocks in our way. He told the family in Spain not to talk to me."

Sender Barayon never understood his

father's fanatic desire to hide the truth, and communication was never crystal clear between the two, especially since the youth forgot all of his Spanish, and his father never learned more than the most rudimentary English.

He and his sister slowly grew apart from everything Spanish. "Spain for us was not a geographical place, but the name for a nightmare in our heads."

Growing up in New York, the two children rode horses on Davis' rustic farm and soaked up the Yankee literary lifestyle of their adoptive mother and her husband, Paul West, who was a correspondent for *Time* magazine. "We grew up with the constant clacking of a typewriter in the other room," Sender Barayon recalls.

Added to this atmosphere was the literary influence, however distant, of their father, who was one of Spain's most prominent novelists. Ramon J. Sender wrote over 80 novels and was awarded the National Prize in literature in 1936, the Critics Prize in 1967 and the Planeta Prize in 1969. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize in literature in 1970, and Spanish television recently ran two television movies based on his novels *Valentina* and *Cronica del Alba*.

Only when General Francisco Franco lay on his deathbed did the elder Sender return to his native land. "He lived long enough to go back to Spain and triumph," says his son.

In 1976, a few years after Franco's death, Andrea made the journey back to Spain. "After my sister's trip, I realized it was possible to go back," says Sender Barayon. And in 1982, he too returned to his birthplace.

He was accompanied by his wife, Judith, who speaks fluent Spanish and was able to help her husband interview dozens of relatives and other witnesses to his mother's death. He even discovered

a half-brother he had never been told about.

During their travels to Madrid, Zamora, Segovia and El Espinar, the couple pieced together the story of Amparo Barayon's last months alive.

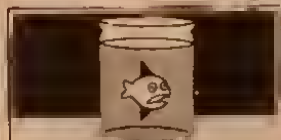
"We [the Sender family] were summering in the mountains of San Rafael in 1936 when fighting broke out with the rebel army close to town," Sender Barayon recounts. "A bus load of armed Fascists showed up, searching for my father and a couple of other Republicans." Facing almost sure execution, Ramon Sender decided to leave and join the rebel army's defense line on the ridge. He told his wife to go to her family in Zamora, and he would send word to her there.

But only one hour after he left, 5,000 troops under a Fascist general entered the town of San Rafael, and a full-scale battle ensued. Unable to escape the chaos, Amparo Barayon, her infant daughter, 2-year-old Ramon, and a few servants and relatives spent the night in the garage of a makeshift hospital, listening to the cries of soldiers undergoing surgery without anesthesia.

After a few months on the road, Amparo and her children arrived in her hometown, Zamora. But her brother-in-law, Miguel Sevilla, who had ties to the rightist Carlists, denounced her to authorities as the wife of a radical journalist. She was imprisoned, along with her nursing daughter, and executed six weeks later. Toddler Ramon, who had been in the care of an aunt during his mother's imprisonment, and his sister were placed in an orphanage.

"I'd fallen into thinking of Spain as just a place in my head," said Sender Barayon when describing his pilgrimage. "But I was compelled, for my own sake, to research my mother's story. Because if I didn't, it might never have been told." □

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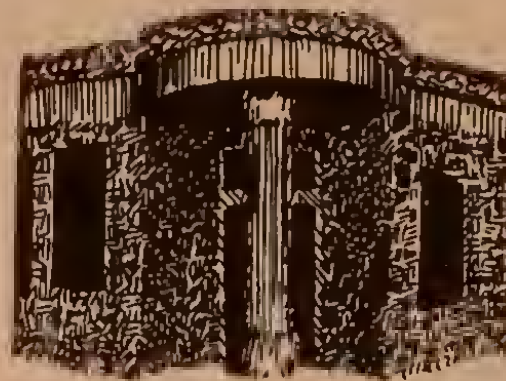
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## Fairs to Remember

*Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub*

**T**his May's Carnival in the Mission District prompted some recollections of past parades and celebrations in San Francisco. I have seen a few parades in my 70 years, but I recall my first with special clarity.

It took place one evening in 1925 in San Francisco, shortly after my family came to California from the farm lands of Idaho. This parade was an extravaganza called the Diamond Jubilee, a celebration to mark the 75th anniversary of California's admission to the union.

Crowds of citizens from every neighborhood lined Market Street, watching with awe and amazement as shimmering floats slid by in the semi-darkness—floats decorated with thousands of tiny diamond-like lights and graced with beautiful fairy princesses wearing sparkling tiaras.

As my young brothers and I sat on orange crates in front of our parents, behind the ropes that marked the parade boundaries, I thought, never again would I see anything so wondrous!

In the decade that followed, my prophecy seemed accurate. The parades of the late '20s and early '30s resembled more and more a collection of weary, out-of-step marchers, accompanied by clamorous marching bands playing off-key. For me, the magic of parades was wearing thin.

But in 1939, following the completion of the Golden Gate and Bay bridges, San Francisco hosted the Golden Gate International Exposition, a giant fair situated on the newly man-made landfill called Treasure Island. (This year, 1989, marks the 50th anniversary of that fair.)

I was a 19-year-old art student at the California School of Fine Arts (now the San Francisco Art Institute), and during summer vacation I did quick sketches of fair visitors. I was one of about 20 girls who worked for a sand sculptor on the "gayway," where there were many concessions, rides, and shooting galleries, as well as the surprisingly popular Sally Rand's Nude Ranch, where an assortment of unlikely girls played volleyball half-heartedly, wearing only cowboy hats and holsters. (Sally Rand was a graceful fan dancer of the time, who manipulated her large, plumed fans so that her nude body was really never visible.)

There were many fascinating carnival folk, or "carnies," who followed the fairs across the nation, and one of them, a man who worked close to our operation, would guess a person's weight for 25 cents—but if he erred, the customer won a walking cane.

One slow day I noted that he gave away a lot of canes, and I wondered how he could make a living that way. Upon mentioning this to a more worldly co-worker, I was informed that this was a come-on, done deliberately to stimulate business. When the man guessed wrongly, he still made money because the canes cost only 10 cents, so he was still 15 cents ahead. When he guessed correctly, he kept the cane and the customer's quarter as well, which was worth a great deal back then. (In 1939, street-car fares were 10 cents. An Italian dinner with red wine cost \$1 at the long-gone Iron Pot restaurant on Montgomery Street, and the finest full-course steak dinner at Alfred's, which today would cost \$25—wine not included—was \$1.25.)

All through the summer, we sketch-artists worked two-hour shifts, then were relieved by fresh girls. This gave us a break in which to explore the exposition. Treasure Island was an enchanting place: there were about 40 large buildings and many smaller pavilions and courts and promenades covering the island. The majestic Tower of the Sun presided over a long square pool and fountain, and covering the flat ground areas were expanses of brilliant, multi-colored flowers that formed patterns like those on an intricate Persian carpet.

The enormous theme sculpture "Pacifica"—an embodiment of the Pacific Rim, the exposition's theme—was designed by Ralph Stackpole, head of the sculpture department at the art school. Pacifica, as well as most of the other abundant statuary, was not constructed to last, but one piece of monumental sculpture, designed for the San Francisco Building and cast in black synthetic stone, has endured. This delightful rendering of playful whales later found an appropriate home in the central courtyard at the Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park.

Many of my breaks were spent watching the progress of the famous Mexican artist Diego Rivera and his assistant, San Francisco's Emmy Lou Packard, as they sat high upon a scaffold, painting the huge mural that now occupies one wall of the theater at San Francisco City College. I also roamed through villages and courts and buildings filled with displays. Live music from every culture was everywhere. There were classical as well as big band performances, and, of course, parades and dancers.

Most visitors went to and from the fair on the ferries that ran often and gave visitors a dazzling view of the brightly lit island, including a fine look at the tall spotlit Ferry Building before it became dwarfed by highrises.

When, after two exciting years, the fair ended, and the bright lights were turned off, I wondered poignantly if we would ever be so happily engaged again. We were, in time, but on a smaller, more intimate scale.

About 10 years ago, newcomers from Latin America, bringing their culture with them, began a yearly parade and celebration called Carnival, which takes place next door to Noe Valley in the Mission. With each passing year, this grassroots festival has grown in size and quality. And this year it was the greatest.

*Continued on Page 20***HOMES OF CHARM***Decorator's JUNKIE*

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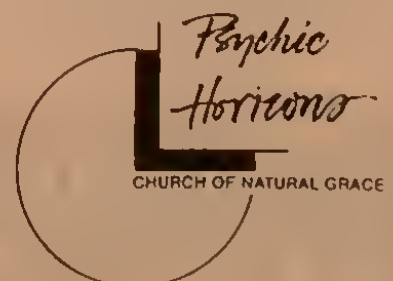
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## San Francisco's Fairs to Remember

Continued from Page 19



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Jorge Duarte, the director of the Noe Valley Samha group, always dreams up a theme and builds upon it. Last year the theme was peace, so the Noe Valley Samba float was decorated with white doves, earth and the other planets. This year, Duarte focused on the endangered rain forest, creating a float resplendent with palm trees and colorful tropical birds.

The Diamond Jubilee can never happen again, nor can that memorable exposition of 50 years ago, but Carnival can and will happen again and again, because those who perform in it do so just for the joy of it... and a little toucan told me that Jorge is already beginning to plan for next year's Carnival. □

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By the Muse behind the Rumors

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## RUMORS

BY MAZOOK

behind  
the  
news

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And S.F. Mystery—our biblioprize.

Audio/video freaks should reverb with glee  
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His body as percussion sublime.

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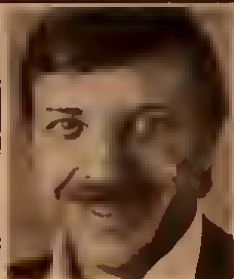


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# MORE MOUTHS • to feed •

By Jane Underwood

## Christopher Quincy Wren

"One day we woke up and we were married, and we had two kids and I thought, geez, how did *this* happen?" says 38-year-old Scott Wren.

Well, it started back in 1980, when Scott, a playwright, met Elizabeth Wray, also a playwright. They courted for three years, then got married. Because having a family was a high priority, they modified their artists' lifestyle by launching a freelance writing business. Even though self-employment can be risky, their venture—Wren & Wray—took off without a hitch.

Elizabeth worked from their Eureka Street home, while Scott used the downtown office. And they did have a baby, daughter Anava, who is now 5 years old. They even managed to write more plays!

Things went so smoothly, in fact, that they decided to have another baby—and 7-pound, 12-ounce Christopher Quincy Wren was born in Mt. Zion Hospital, at 11:21 p.m., on Dec. 19, 1988.

"Having two children may be more than twice the work," says Elizabeth, 39, "but the pure joy that a baby brings into the house is more than worth it."

Today, at 7 months, Christopher is a "very happy little being . . . who can now sit up all by himself, with only an occasional tumble," says his dad. He is also into "the big Oral—with a capital O—stage."

Anava, the Wrens proudly note, hasn't shown even a mite of jealousy toward her



Sharing an Elizabeth Street homestead are three generations of Wray-Wrens: grandparents William and Jeanne Wray, Scott Wren and Elizabeth Wray, and kids Anava, 5, and Christopher, 7 months. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS.

blue-eyed, fair-haired brother. Instead, her mom says, "She has been absolutely great. She's very involved with playing dolls and make-believe games, and she incorporates Christopher into that. She has also surprised me with how much she helps with her brother."

Scott and Elizabeth made sure "to set things up right beforehand," when planning for their second child, says Elizabeth. Two years ago, they bought a two-flat house on Elizabeth Street—with her parents as the co-tenants. The extended-family arrangement (as well as close contact with Scott's mother, who lives nearby) has been a boon.

"We're all able to really be there for each other," says Elizabeth. "If I forget to pick up milk at the store, my mom watches the kids for 15 minutes. It makes things so much easier."

The couple also make sure to schedule weekly dinner "dates" with each other—without the kids. "They're just for us," says Elizabeth, "sort of our dream time."

But since Christopher's arrival, says Scott, "We've had to reschedule our lives *again*, from the ground up. And we've had friends look at us and say, 'Oh my God, what have they done to themselves?'"

"It's hard to describe our life to them in a way they'll understand. But having children takes away a lot of the sense of angst that hits in your 30s. It answers the question—what's the purpose of my life?—on such a fundamental level." □

**MORE MOUTHS TO FEED** wants to show off your newest family member. If you have a new baby in residence, please send your announcement to the *Noe Valley Voice*, More Mouths, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F. 94114. Please include your address and phone number, so we can contact you to arrange for the family portrait.

To those who've already mailed us the good news: please forgive us if we haven't contacted you yet. Sometimes we have a backlog of babies!



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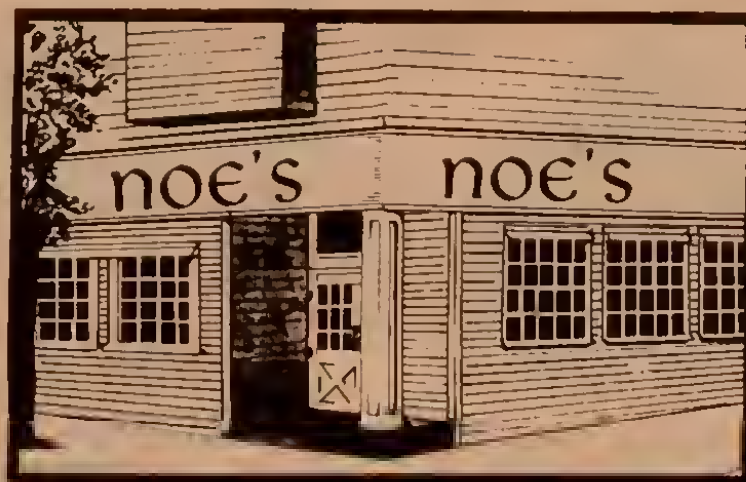
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#### Adult Fiction

First published in 1936 and considered pro-Nazi by some readers, *Death of a Man*, a novel by Kay Boyle, describes how Nazism gained a foothold in Austria in the 1930s.

*The Education of Harriet Hatfield*, by May Sarton, depicts a woman's confrontation with homophobia when she opens a women's bookstore in a working-class Boston neighborhood.

*In Transit*, by renowned Canadian author Mavis Gallant, contains 20 of her short stories, all of which first appeared in *The New Yorker*.

*Soulmate* is Rosamond Smith's psychothriller about a serial murderer who plans to kill his "soulmate."



## MORE Books to Read

#### Adult Non-Fiction

*Alternatives in Healing*, by Simon Mills and Steven Firando, discusses osteopathy, acupuncture, homeopathy, herbalism, and other alternative approaches to disease prevention and cure.

*Life Sketches* contains John Hersey's non-fiction pieces on a range of subjects from John F. Kennedy to children of holocaust survivors.

In his easy-to-read *Mr. Mother Earth's Most*

*Rewarding Houseplants*, Joel Rapp covers light, watering, pests, feeding, and grooming for foliage and flowering and subtropical plants.

*Peace, Love, and Healing* continues *Love, Medicine and Miracles* author Bernie Siegel's exploration of the mind/body connection and its role in self-healing.

*Twenty Minute Meals*, by Marian Burros contains easy-to-make recipes for fresh, stylish and healthy meals.

#### Children's Books

*Funny Bugs, Giggleworms, and Other Good Friends* is a new tape cassette by Malvina Reynolds that's sure to please your young child.

*A Visit from Dr. Katz* tells the story of a young girl sick in bed who feels better when the house cat visits. By Ursula Le Guin for ages 3 to 5.

*Follow the Drinking Gourd* is a song and a message to slaves on how to reach the underground railroad. A satisfying read by Jeanette Winter for ages 6 to 9.

*The Magician's Apprentice* was a young pickpocket until he met a kindly magician and more adventure than he bargained for. A great fantasy for ages 8 to 10 by Tom McGowen.

*Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices* is this year's Newberry Award winner by Paul Fleischman. Children 8 and up will enjoy these poems for two.

*Scorpions* is a Harlem gang, and Jamal is their reluctant new leader until a gun changes everything. Older readers will find this story by Walter Dean Myers riveting.

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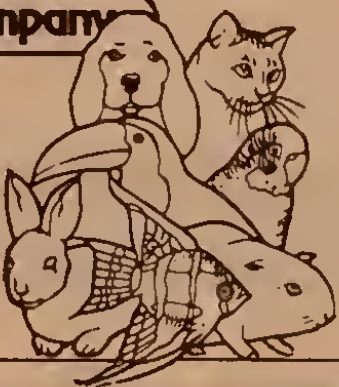
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**PET CARE SERVICE.** "Long Walks & Sweet Talks" loving home pet care service. In business since 1982. Excellent references. Call 824-0188.

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### Voice Class Ads

The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢, enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 20th of the month preceding the month of issue. Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Note: The next issue will appear Sept. 1. (The current issue will be on the streets for two months, July and August, because we're on vacation for a month.) Please mail your ad and check—made payable to the *Noe Valley Voice*—so that we receive it by Aug. 20. Sorry, but we are unable to take phone or drop-in orders.

Also note: We cannot accept payment for insertions in more than six issues. Receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. □

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# CALENDAR

**JULY 1:** The "Flights of Fantasy" summer READING GAME begins at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**JULY 1-16:** Eureka Theatre Company presents Lorenzo Pickle in "CLDWN DREAMS" 2, 7 & 8 pm. 2730 16th St. 346-7805

**JULY 5:** The Infant-Toddler EAPSI for infants to 3 years continues Wednesdays at 7 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**JULY 5 & 7-9:** The ARCHETYPAL THEATRE Company performs *The Electric Mirror*, combining multimedia stage effects with elements of classic Greek drama. 8 pm, 3 pm matinee July 9. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834

**JULY 6:** Ongoing adult TENNIS CLASSES for beginners and intermediates are held Thursdays from 10:30 am-noon. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez. Call 647-2474 for information.

**JULY 6:** The artists and authors of *The Forbidden Stitch: An Asian-American WOMEN'S ANTHOLOGY* will discuss "How Our Cultures Inform Our Artistic Vision." 7-9 pm. China Books and Periodicals, 2929 24th St. 282-2994.

**JULY 6-9 & 13-16:** The Joe Goode Performance Group presents the San Francisco premiere of the "Disaster Series," a collection of mini DANCE-DRAMAS. 8:30 pm. Theatre Attaud, 450 Florida St. 621-7797

**JULY 6-22:** Michael Hossner's vibrant, emotionally graphic PAINTINGS will be on display at the Fobbo Gallery. Thurs-Sat., 3-7 pm. 3747 23rd St. 695-0640

**JULY 7 & 10:** The San Francisco School of BALLROOM DANCING offers four-week classes in tango, salsa, tango, waltz and cha-cha. 63 Onondaga St. Call 333-5570 for times and registration information.

## JULY 1989

**JULY 8:** DAVID AUERBACH uses his ancient musical instruments and the Noe Valley Ministry's acoustics in a special concert, "Echoes at the Ministry." 8:15 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

**JULY 8:** A GARAGE SALE GAEA featuring "classy stuff, designer clothes and all the usual junk" will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Episcopal Sanctuary for the Homeless. 10 am-6 pm. Hartford Properties' parking lot, 1929 Market St. 863-7502, ext. 164

**JULY 8 & 9:** The San Francisco MIME TROUPE celebrates its 27th season with a performance of *Seeing Double*, which tackles the problems of the Middle East from a sardonically comic angle. 2 pm. Mission Dolores Park, 18th & Dolores. 285-1717

**JULY 10:** Walter Traverso will provide the music for the Diamond Senior Center's INDEPENDENCE DAY DANCE. 1-3 pm. Luncheon will be served at noon with a suggested \$1.25 donation. 117 Diamond St. 863-3507



Betsy Ceva reveals her "Moving Mantras" at Centerspace July 13-15.  
PHOTO BY STEVE SAVAGE

**JULY 9:** JAY GUMMERMAN and ETHAN CANIN will read from their just-published first collections *We Find Ourselves in Moontown* and *Emperor of the Air*. 7 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 11:** In celebration of *Chicanas y Chicanos en Dialogo*, a collection of the work of 42 POETS and eight artists, some contributors will read their selections. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 11:** "In the Night Kitchen," "Curious George Rides a Bike" and "Madeline's Rescue" are FILMS for ages 3-5, 10 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**JULY 11:** The opening reception of a EXHIBITION commemorating the freeing of the press, "Revolution in Print: France, 1789," begins at 5:30 pm. San Francisco Main Library Rotunda, Civic Center. 552-9081.

**JULY 11:** "Highlights and Evaluation of the 20th National Conference on Women and the Law" will feature a video of RADICAL WOMEN founder Clara Fraser's keynote address, dinner, and a discussion. 6:45 pm. Radical Women, 523A Valencia St. 864-1278.

**JULY 12:** Local Big Brothers/Big Sisters agencies will hold a Bay Area-wide VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION, sponsored by radio station KSDL. Call 434-4860 for times and locations.

**JULY 13-15:** CHOREOGRAPHER Betsy Ceva presents "Moving Mantras," a four-part evolving dance performance. 8 pm. Centerspace, 2840 Mariposa St. 861-5059

**JULY 14 & 15:** Judy Patton and Company give a DANCE PERFORMANCE, "The Wild Sky's Trap," inspired by the life and work of Marcel Duchamp. 8 pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834

**JULY 15:** Formal, '50s formal or 'funky' formal attire is required at the "Midsummer's Night PROM." 1959-Thirty Years Later," to benefit Project Open Hand. 8:30 pm-12:30 am. Avenue Ballroom, 603 Taraval St. 681-2882.

**JULY 15:** A Guy Named Howie sings SONGS to keep the kids in stitches. 11 am. Buffet Flat Bookstore, 307 Cortland Ave. 641-8247

**JULY 15 & 22-AUG. 6:** The San Francisco CHILDREN'S THEATRE presents an adaptation of a colorful Russian folk tale, *Jack and the Firebird*. 4:30 pm July 15, 2:30 & 4:30 pm Saturdays and Sundays, beginning July 22. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2745

**JULY 15 & AUG. 12:** Learn inside secrets of "How to BUY A NEW CAR and Save Lots of Money." 9 am-1 pm. For more information call Nancie Gee at 441-3421

**JULY 15-AUG. 30:** The Graphic Arts Workshop presents "Summer in the City," an exhibition of PRINTS by San Francisco artists. Noon-6 pm weekends, or by appointment. Print-makers Gallery, 6253 California St. 386-9524.

**JULY 17:** Larry Forsberg, Susan Schwartz and Karen Yard from the Chinese Medicine Works discuss "ACUPUNCTURE: What It Is and What It Can Do." 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 285-0931

**JULY 19:** Explore the relationship between what we eat and our health at a FOOD AND HEALING Workshop. 7:30-9:30 pm. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

**JULY 20:** Tsultrim Allione will read from her book *WOMEN OF WISDOM*, inspirational stories of women who have attained enlightenment and liberation. 7:30 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

**JULY 20:** Father John Cloherly, pastor of ST. PAUL's, will speak on the history of his church at the meeting of Upper Noe Neighbors. 7:30 pm. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez. 641-5989.

**JULY 20-22 & 27-29:** New Live Art presents a forgotten DRAMA by Tennessee Williams, *The Two-Character Play*. 8:30 pm. Footwork, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044

**JULY 20-27:** The Ninth Annual JEWISH FILM Festival will feature 26 of the best new Jewish subject films from 12 countries. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St. Call 548-0556 for a schedule.

**JULY 21 & 22:** Rosa Montoya's BAILES FLAMENCOS presents its 16th home season featuring guest artist Daniel de Cordoba. 8 pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave. 552-3656

**JULY 22:** INKUYO, from Bolivia and Chile, performs the haunting folk music of the Andes. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

**JULY 22:** The San Francisco chapter of the Older Women's League presents a DRAMATIC READING and discussion of "The Circle of Sisterhood," concerning women's mutual support. 10 am. Golden Gate Lutheran Church, 19th & Dolores. 550-1660

**JULY 24:** Seven contributors to *LESBIAN LOVE STORIES* will read from their new book. 7:30 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

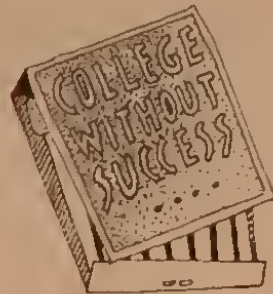


**JULY 24:** The San Francisco Democratic Club will feature an informational presentation on "GRANTS FOR THE ARTS of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund" at its monthly membership meeting. 7 pm. New College, 777 Valencia St. 995-ARTS

**JULY 25:** STORYTELLER Nancy Brennan-Strange tells "Tales From Around the World" for ages 3 and older. 2:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**JULY 26:** Peter Berg, co-author of *A GREEN CITY Program*, will describe how we can all work toward a sustainable future. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246

**JULY 26:** Rebecca Radner and Susan Rawlins will read their POETRY. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788



**JULY 28:** Deadline for independent films and videos by Northern California artists to be chosen for the fifth edition of the FILM ARTS FESTIVAL to be screened at the Roxie Cinema Nov. 2-5. Film Arts Foundation, 346 Ninth St., 2nd floor. 552-8760

**JULY 29:** Indian master FLUTIST G. S. Sachdev, acclaimed for his collaborations with Ravi Shankar, performs with his tabla and tamboura players. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

## AUGUST 1989

**AUG. 6:** BOOK PARTY for Noe Valley author Ramon Sender Barayon's new book, *A Death in Zamora*. 3-5 pm. Cover to Cover, 3910 24th St. 282-8080.

**AUG. 8:** Ages 3 to 5 will enjoy the FILMS "Corduroy," "Harold and the Purple Crayon" and "Mole and the Egg." 10 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**AUG. 9:** Long-time Noe Valley resident Tillie Smith describes the neighborhood at the time of the San Francisco EARTHQUAKE in a video interview. 7 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788.

**AUG. 11-SEPT. 3:** The STANFORD ACTORS Project performs *The American Dream* and *Box* by Edward Albee, and Lanford Wilson's *The Fiddlers of Eldritch* in rotating repertory. Intersection Theatre, 766 Valencia St. For specific dates and times call 563-1431.

**AUG. 12:** Claudia Gomez, Rafael Manriquez and John Santos present some of the best in LATIN AND JAZZ music. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

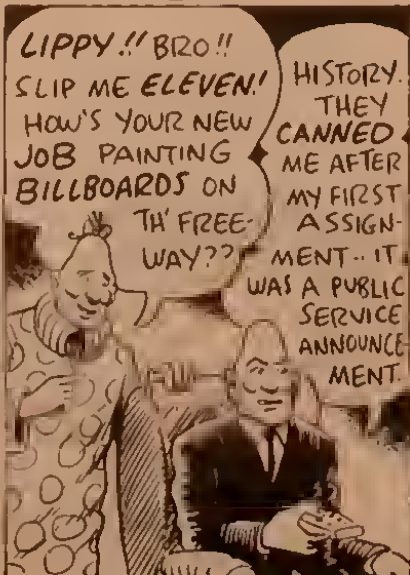
**AUG. 19:** The Danny Heines Group gets together with PAUL McCANDLESS, the oboe/multi-reed player from the group Oregon. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

**AUG. 26:** MARSHEAND performs jazz and improvisational music at the Noe Valley Music series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

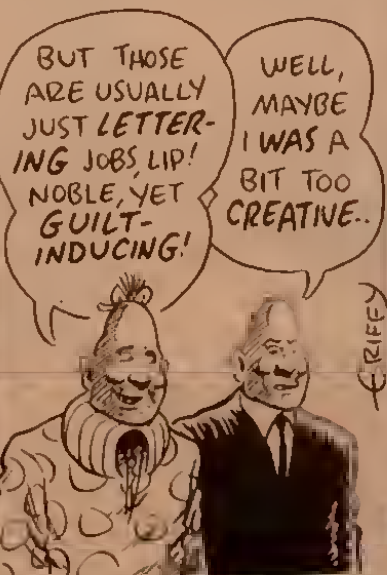
### The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The next issue of the *Voice* will appear Sept. 1 (we're on vacation for a month), the deadline for calendar items is Aug. 15.

ZIPPY



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